

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Wood et al in view of Klasa et al and further in view of DeBont et al. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection for the reasons that follow.

In maintaining the rejection, the Examiner relies on Klasa et al because it allegedly: "establishes that AML can be treated via the same mechanism of action of PTK787." However, Applicants assert that Klasa et al does not establish this and invite the Examiner to point out the sections of Klasa that are being relied upon for this teaching. Applicants assert that Klasa et al merely provides a hypothesis to be tested and does not provide data or other information that would lead the skilled artisan to understand that the discussion was anything but speculation. Therefore, Klasa et al does not provide a disclosure that would lead one of skill in the art to have a reasonable expectation of success with respect to the use of PTK787, or other VEGFR inhibitors, to treat AML.

For the reasons discussed above, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC 103(a).

Entry of this response and reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



George R. Dohmann
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 33,593

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Patents Pharma
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7824

Date: November 26, 2008